

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 NSF-01

DOT-00 AGR-05 ERDE-00 /094 W
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P R 261635Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5214

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 3523

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, TECH; PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: COOPERATION IN S/T AND ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

REFS: (A) STATE 87572; (B) STATE 87114, (C) STATE 77156

(D) STATE 66237 (E) BRASILIA 3311

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY HAS PRESENTED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY
TERMS OF REFERENCE SUB-GROUPS ON ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND
ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PURSUANT REFTELS A AND B.
INITIAL REACTION WAS FAVORABLE. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS
CONSIDER EARLY MEETING OF SUB-GROUP ON ENERGY TECHNOLOGY,
PERHAPS DURING UEKI VISIT TO WASHINGTON, DESIRABLE
BUT BELIEVE THAT CONSIDERABLE PREPARATORY WORK WILL
BE REQUIRED FOR MEETING OF SUB-GROUP ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY. THIS ALSO IS DION'S THINKING WHO HAS
SUGGESTED A SERIES OF WORK SHOPS IN SELECTED AREAS
TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC PROJECTS. EMBASSY ENDORSES
THIS APPROACH, AND REQUESTS FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF
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INTERESTS OF WASHINGTON AGENCIES AS THE NEXT STEP WHILE

GOB CONSIDERING PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

2. ON APRIL 16, PURSUANT TO FOREIGN MINISTER'S SUGGESTION TO AMBASSADOR, ECON/COMMERCIAL AND SCIENCE COUNSELORS MET WITH GERALDO HOLLANDA CABALCANTI, FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPECIAL ADVISOR, TO PRESENT PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SUB-GROUPS ON ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO THE FORMULATION OF A WORK PROGRAM. EMB OFFICERS STRESSED (A) THE DESIRABILITY TO BEGIN WITH A LIMITED NUMBER OF VERY SPECIFIC PROJECT POSSIBILITY, GRADUALLY ADDING OTHERS, AND TO RESOLVE MORE GENERAL ISSUES PRAGMATICALLY AS THE OCCASION ARISES; (B) THE NEED TO FIND AREAS WHERE OVERLAPPING INTERESTS AND COMPLEMENTARY CAPABILITIES EXIST, AND (C) LIMITED US FUNDING CAPABILITIES, E. E., THE NEED TO BUILD ON COMPLEMENTARY NATIONAL PROGRAMS WHENEVER POSSIBLE. HOLLANDA CAVALCANTI (WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MAURO AZEREDO) THOUGHT TERMS OF REFERENCE LARGELY ACCEPTABLE, AND WILL BE IN TOUCH AFTER THEY ARE FULLY REVIEWED WITHIN GOB. (COMMENT: SILVEIRA HAD INDICATED TO AMBASSADOR THAT THE TWO SUB-GROUPS WERE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST TO HIM PERSONALLY AND THAT HE WOULD WISH TO HANDLE THE FORMULATION OF THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE DIRECTLY OUT OF HIS OFFICE, SIMILAR TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ESTABLISHING THE HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM.)

3. SUB-GROUP ON ENERGY TECHNOLOGY. HOLLANDA CABALCANTI SAID GOB ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING WERE MORE ADVANCED, AND THOUGHT FIRST MEETING OF SUB-GROUP DURING UEKI VISIT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE. HE HAD NO FURTHER SUGGESTIONS. HOLLANDA CAVALCANTI RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE LEAD-TIME -- WE NOTED NEED FOR THIRTY DAYS -- AND PROMISED PROMPT DECISION.

4. COMMENT: DURING LUNCHEON MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR (SEE BELOW), DION DISCLOSED THAT SINCE HIS US VISIT GOB HAD DECIDED TO TRANSFER ENTIRE ENERGY R&F PROGRM (INCLUDING NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND EXCEPTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ONLY SOME BASIC RESEARCH) FOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT FROM SEPLAN (CNPQ AND FINEP) TO MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY (MME). MME WOULD BECOME PRINCIPAL TECHNICAL AGENCY ON SUB-GROUP AND COUNTERPART FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVE PROJECTS WITH ERDA.

5. SUB-GROUP ON COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. HOLLANDA CAVALCANTI SAID MUCH PREPARATORY WORK WITHIN GOB

REMAINED TO BE DONE. EXISTING SEPLAN INTER-MINISTERIAL COUNCIL ON S/T TOO LARGE FOR USEFUL WORK. REAL PREPARATIONS WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT RETURN OF MINISTER GRIECO, CHIEF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION. FOREIGN MINISTRY CONSIDERS DION VISIT TO US TO HAVE PROVIDED USEFUL INFORMATION ON SPECTRUM OF POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION. OTHER MINISTRIES WILL BE ASKED TO DEVELOP COOPERATIVE PROJECT POSSIBILITIES AND PREPARE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AGENDA OF FIRST MEETING OF S/T SUB-GROUP. (FOREIGN MINISTRY IS NOT SUGGESTING DELAY IN ACTION ON SPECIFIC PROJECTS.) CAVALCANTI SAID IT WAS PREMATURE TO CONSIDER MEETING DATE BUT FIRST MEETING SHOULD BE IN BRAZIL.

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P R 261635Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5215

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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6. WE SUGGESTED INFORMAL WORKING GROUP BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTRY, EMBASSY, AND CNPQ TO IDENTIFY AND PREPARE FOR DISCUSSION BY THE SUB-GROUP SPECIFIC PROJECT IDEAS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, DRAWING PARTLY ON REFTEL D, WE PROPOSED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION THE

FOLLOWING POSSIBILITIES, WHICH WERE NOTED BY CAVALCANTI
AND AZEREDO:

(A) ENVIRONMENT (REF D, PARA 4);

COMMENT: IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OBTAIN FURTHER
REFINEMENT AND DEFINITION OF SPECIFIC US INTERESTS.

(B) NOAA COOPERATION (REF D, PARA 8);

(C) TRANSPORTATION (REF D, PARA 7)

COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS SINCE RECEIVED EXCHANGE OF
CORRESPONDENCE WITH GOB DIRECTLY FROM US DOT.

(D) AGRICULTURE

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COMMENT: BRAZILIAN SIDE SEEMED IMPRESSED BY USDA
INTEREST MANIFESTED DURING MEETING WITH DION.

(E) US BUREAU OF STANDARDS

COMMENT: WE SUGGESTED THAT TWO SIDES FOCUS ON
ONE OR TWO ITEMS INITIALLY, AS A WORKING HYPOTHESIS,
FOR EXAMPLE, BUILDING MATERIALS, WHICH WAS MENTIONED
BY BUREAU OF STANDARD REPS.

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

(A) IN VIEW OF TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL ENERGY
R&D TO MME AND LACK OF EVIDENCE THAT MME HAS SO FAR
DONE ANY STAFF WORK ON POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION
WITH US, WE ARE DOUBTFUL THAT THE SUB-GROUP ON ENERGY
TECHNOLOGY COULD HAVE A USEFUL MEETING DURING UEKI VISIT.
WE WILL EXPLORE THIS QUESTION FURTHER WITH CAVALCANTI
AND MME AND WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED
ON DEPARTMENT'S DISCUSSIONS WITH BRAZILIAN EMBASSY
IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATIONS OF UEKI VISIT.

(B) EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR POINT BY POINT
RESPONSE AND ACTION ON DION VISIT FOLLOW-UP. WE REQUEST
DEPARTMENT FOLLOW-UP WITH OTHER AGENCIES IN THE FIVE
AREAS LISTED IN PARA 6 TO OBTAIN CLEARER
IDEA OF SPECIFIC BINATIONAL PROJECTS POSSIBILITIES IN
WHICH THESE AGENCIES MIGHT BE INTERESTED. IT WOULD
BE HELPFUL IF THIS INFORMATION WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR
OUR NEXT MEETING WITH CAVALCANTI WHICH WE EXPECT
IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS.
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